

## **GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF HEARING AID DEALERS & DISPENSERS**

### **Board Meeting December 06, 2011**

A meeting of the Georgia State Board of Hearing Aid Dealers and Dispensers was held on Tuesday, December 06, 2011 at the Professional Licensing Boards Office, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

#### **The following Board members were present:**

Dr. Donald N. Cote, M.D., Board Certified – American Board of Otolaryngology, Vice-Chair  
Vaughn Bray, BC-HIS, CCCA  
Henry Williams Jr., B.A., BC-HIS  
Ralph T. Jackson, Jr.  
Joseph Stock, BC-HIS  
Deborah Brilling, Consumer Member

#### **Board Members Absent:**

Kadyn Ochs Williams, Au.D

#### **Staff Present:**

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director  
Wylencia Monroe, Assistant Attorney General (via conference call)  
Amanda Allen, Board Support Specialist

Dr. Donald Cote, Vice-Chair, established that a quorum was present and called the Board meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

#### **Agenda:**

**Ms. Brilling moved, Mr. Jackson seconded, and the Board voted to approve the agenda with late agenda items added. None opposed, motion carried.**

#### **Minutes:**

**Ms. Brilling moved, Mr. Jackson seconded, and the Board voted to approve the minutes from the following meeting dates as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

- **September 13, 2011**
- **November 15, 2011**

#### **Executive Director's Report:**

1. Mr. Zimmerman notified the Board that all licensees' were now able to renew their license for the 2011-2013 biennium renewal cycle (12-31-11 Expiration Date). To date, only approximately 49% have renewed.
2. Mr. Zimmerman reminded the Board that the General Assembly passed the House Bill 87, which revised O.C.G.A. §50-36-1. Effective January 01, 2012, all applicants submitting initial applications and all individuals/entities (principal individual') renewing licenses will be required to submit secure and verifiable documentation to verify their lawful presence in the US.

3. Mr. Zimmerman requested the Board to review the Hearing Aid Dealer Application for any possible revisions.

**Mr. Williams moved, Mr. Jackson seconded and the Board voted to accept the Executive Director's report as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Correspondences:**

- Jaime Howard, Au. D., President, Georgia Academy of Audiology,

**After an in-depth discussion, Mr. Williams moved, Mr. Stock seconded, and the Board voted to appoint Mr. Ralph Jackson, Board Member, to draft a response regarding the selling of hearing aids via the internet. Response will be presented to the full Board. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Rule Discussion:**

Rule 276-10-.02 Continuing Education Courses

**Due to additional amendments, Ms. Brilling moved, Mr. Jackson seconded, and the Board voted to re-post Rule 276-10-.02 Continuing Education Courses as amended for the 30-day minimum requirement upon the receipt of the memo of authority from Wylencia Monroe, AAG. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Mr. Stock moved, Mr. Williams seconded, and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 43-1-2(k) (1) (2), O.C.G.A. § 43-1-2(k) (4), O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1), to receive and review information pertaining to Applications, and to receive the Attorney General and Cognizant Report. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Board members Dr. Cote, Bray, Jackson, H. Williams, Stock, and Brilling.**

**At the conclusion of Executive Session on Tuesday, December 06, 2011, Dr. Cote declared the meeting to be "open" pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq.**

**Applications:**

**Mr. Bray moved, Ms. Brilling seconded, and the Board voted to take the following action on applicants applying for licensure as a Hearing Aid Dispenser. None opposed, one recusal, motion carried.**

1. W.H. Pending the receipt of additional information

**Ratify List of Newly Licensed Candidates:**

**Mr. Bray moved, Mr. Jackson seconded, and the Board voted to ratify the list of approvals for licensure determined to have met licensure requirements as follows:**

**Hearing Aid Training Permits:**

<u>License No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>
HAP000155	Nations, Dana	Beltone Hearing Aid Center 3190 Atlanta Hwy Ste. 15	10-07-2011

HAP000156	Johnson, Bonnie	Athens, GA. 30606 New Age Hearing Aid Center 2269 Cedar Ridge Rd. Commerce, GA. 30530	10-14-2011
HAP000157	Munoz, Gilbert III	Audiology Associates 4145 Lawrenceville Hwy Ste. 10-A Lilburn, GA. 30047	10-27-2011
HAP000158	Sapera, Scott	BET Townsend 1650W. Broad Athens, GA. 30606	11-03-2011
HAP000159	Scott, Joseph	Atlanta Beltone Center 2900 Peachtree Rd. NW Ste. 210 Atlanta, GA. 30305	11-03-2011
HAP000160	Sims, Alexander	Atlanta Beltone Center 2900 Peachtree Rd. NW Ste. 210 Atlanta, GA. 30305	11-03-2011
HAP000161	Norton, Mark	Hearing Care Resources 2007 Parkwood Drive Brunswick, GA. 31520	11-23-2011

Hearing Aid Apprentice Dispenser:

<u>License No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>
HAA000063	Blakenship, Eugene	Optimal Hearing 455 E. Paces Ferry Rd NE Atlanta, GA. 30305	09-14-2011
HAA000064	Eberhart, Ginger	Affordable Hearing Aids 8601 Baldwin Pkwy Ste 101 Douglasville, GA. 30134	10-27-2011

Hearing Aid Dealers:

<u>License No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>
HADE034980	Atlanta Beltone Center	2900 Peachtree Rd. NW Atlanta, GA. 30305	09-15-2011
HADE034981	Costco Wholesale Corp.	825 Alexander Drive Augusta, GA. 30909	10-25-2011
HADE034982	Hear at Home	100 Edsel Drive Ste. C Richmond Hill, GA. 31324	11-03-2011

Hearing Aid Dispenser:

<u>License No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>
HADS000870	Blankenship, Eugene	5382 Lassiter Drive Stone Mountain, GA. 30087	10-21-2011
HADS000871	Castleberry, Justin	3660 Crawford Rd. Valdosta, GA. 31605	10-21-2011
HADS000872	Sims, Steven	2127 Millgate Lane Buford, GA. 30519	10-21-2011
HADS000873	Weidinger, David	5839 Chickasaw Lane Braselton, GA. 30517	10-21-2011

Assistant Attorney General Report:

Wylencia Monroe, Assistant Attorney General, provided a status report which included information on any cases referred for action, requests for advice and /or requests for authority for proposed rules.

**Mr. Jackson moved, Ms. Williams seconded, and the Board voted to accept the Attorney General's Report as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Open Matters: Items voted upon during Open Session.**

- Jag Enterprises Inc. d/b/a Miracle Ear, HADE034847

**In the matter of Jag Enterprises, Inc., d/b/a/ Miracle Ear, License No. HADE034847, Mr. Williams moved, Mr. Stock seconded, and the Board voted to accept the signed public Consent Order. None opposed, motion carried.**

- Miracle Ear of Toccoa d/b/a/ Jag Enterprises, Inc., HADE034915

**In the matter of Miracle Ear of Toccoa, d/b/a Jag Enterprises, Inc., License No. HADE034915, Mr. Williams moved, Mr. Stock seconded and the Board voted to accept the signed Voluntary Surrender. None opposed, motion carried.**

- JAG Enterprises, Inc., d/b/a/ Miracle Ear, HADE034841

**In the matter of Jag Enterprises, Inc., d/b/a Miracle Ear, License No. HADE034841, Mr. Jackson moved, Mr. Williams seconded, and the Board voted to issue the Final Decision. None opposed, motion carried.**

Cognizant Report:

Mr. Jackson gave an update on the pending complaint/investigation cases. The following recommendations were presented to the Board.

Cases to be closed:

- HA120004-Complaint is not within the Board's jurisdiction
- HA120005- Case referred to the Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologists Board

Cases pending the receipt of additional information:

- HA110010

Cases Pending an Investigative Interview:

- HA120006

Cases Referred to Investigations:

- HA110009

**Mr. Williams moved, Ms. Williams seconded, and the Board voted to accept Cognizant report as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Probation Report:**

- Natalie Lloyd, HADS000734-Probation termination request

**Mr. Jackson moved, Ms. Brilling seconded, and the Board voted to terminate the probationary status. License returned to active with no restrictions. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Additional Business:**

1. 2011-2012 Officer Elections
  - A. After an in-depth discussion the 2012 Officer Elections were tabled until all Board members were in attendance to participate in the election.

**There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Jackson moved, Mr. Williams seconded, and the Board voted to adjourn today's meeting at 11:43 a.m.**

**Minutes recorded by:**

Amanda Allen, Board Support Specialist

**Minutes reviewed and edited by:**

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director

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Dr. Donald Cote, Vice-Chair  
Georgia State Board of Hearing Aid  
Dealers and Dispensers

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Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director  
Professional Licensing Boards Division

These minutes were approved and signed on: March 13, 2012